

PATENT  
TH0681N (US)  
DFH:EM

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	)	
	)	
DAVID M. SINGLETON, LOUIS KRAVETZ,	)	
BRENDAN D. MURRAY	)	
	)	
Serial No. 09/655,964	)	Group Art Unit: 1796
	)	
Filed September 6, 2000	)	Examiner: Necholus Ogden Jr.
	)	
HIGHLY BRANCHED PRIMARY ALCOHOL	)	July 16, 2008
COMPOSITIONS, AND BIODEGRADABLE	)	
<u>DETERGENTS MADE THEREFROM</u>	)	

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

The Notice of Non-Compliance indicated that the brief did not contain a section under an appropriate heading identifying the related appeals, interferences and judicial proceedings which may be related to this application. The Applicants hereby submit an amended page 2 of the Corrected Appeal Brief filed on March 31, 2008. The section which was entitled "Related Appeals and Interferences," has now been changed to be titled "Related Proceedings."

Respectfully submitted,

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and BRENDAN D. MURRAY

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### Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest is Shell Oil Company.

### Related Proceedings

There are no related appeals or interferences or other proceedings but there is a divisional application, Serial No. 11/748,976, which has been rejected by the Examiner in this case.

### Status of the Claims

Claims 1-12 were originally filed in this continuation application and claims 13-69 of the parent application were canceled. Claims 70-83 were added in the Preliminary Amendment of September 6, 2000. Claims 1 and 4 were amended and claim 84 was added in the response of June 11, 2002. In the response of March 7, 2003, claims 1, 12, 70 and 75 were amended, claims 11 and 74 were canceled and new claims 85-102 were added. Claim 71 was canceled in the response of November 1, 2006. The final form of the claims is as presented in the response of July 16, 2007 in which claims 1, 6, 70, 77, 85 and 94 were amended, claims 5, 9-10, 76, 78, 80, 90-91 and 99-100 were canceled, and claims 103-109 were added. The rejection of claims 1-4, 6-8, 12, 70, 72, 73, 75-77, 79, 81-89, 92-98, 101-109 is being appealed herein.

### Status of Amendments

No amendments have been filed subsequent to the final rejection.

### Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

Claim 1 describes a biodegradable sulfate composition comprising sulfates of an alkyl branched primary alcohol composition having an average chain length per molecule of 14 to 19 carbon atoms, an average number of branches per molecule of 0.7 to 2.3, less than 0.5 atom % of quaternary carbon atoms, at least 40 percent methyl branches, 5 to 30 percent ethyl branches and 5 to 25 percent of the number of branches are on the C<sub>2</sub> atoms of the composition. The sulfate composition is described at page 4, lines 14-20, of the specification. The average chain length per molecule of 14 to 19 carbon atoms is described at page 8, lines 19 and 20 of the specification and in Table III on page 34. The average number of branches per molecule of 0.7 to 2.3 is described at page 4, line 19 and page 5, line 7 of the specification. The less than 0.5 atom % of quaternary carbon atoms is described at page 9, lines 8-16, of the specification. The at least 40 percent of the branches being methyl branches is described at page 10, lines 25-27, of the specification. The range of 5 to 30 percent ethyl branches is described at page 10, lines 3-5, of